

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

If the FCC is concerned about free speech, they should consider that regarding all matters not just this one. The bias against the freedom of speech by others in the news media has been taken away, but on when they spoke out against the current administration in Washington. It's about time the FCC stands up for equality in America and not just half of it.

Thank you.